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PATENT \$
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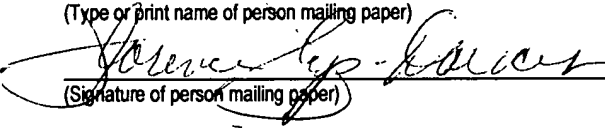
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Serial No. 09/819,036
Filed: February 20, 2001
Title: Cassette and Applicator for
Biological and Chemical Sample
Collection
Applicant: Virtanen
Group Art Unit No. 3736
Examiner: M. Hindenburg

8/16/02
5-8-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 15, 2001, please amend the above identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please clarify prior claim amendments of the preliminary and supplemental preliminary amendments as follows, a marked up set of the claims showing changes from the originally filed claims is appended hereto:

15. (Amended) An apparatus for collecting a biological sample from a subject for subsequent transfer to an analyzer disk, said apparatus comprising:

a cassette having walls which define a cavity for receiving said biological sample, said cassette being adapted to engage said analyzer disk;

an inlet for transferring said biological sample from the subject into said cavity;

and

an outlet for transferring said biological sample from said cavity to said analyzer disk when said cassette is engaged with said analyzer disk.